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PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: DIVER1280-3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Short and Keller                      Art Unit: 1639  
Serial No.: 09/685,432                      Examiner: J.D. Epperson  
Filed: October 10, 2000                      Conf. No.: 4977  
Title: HIGH THROUGHPUT SCREENING FOR SEQUENCES OF INTEREST

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 22, 2003 (Paper No. 21), please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page two of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page six of this paper.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.8

I hereby certify that the documents referred to as enclosed herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on January 22, 2004, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen LePari".

Karen LePari